

John Tyler to Andrew Jackson, September 17, 1844, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

class=MsoNormal>PRESIDENT TYLER TO JACKSON.

Washington, September 17, 1844.

Confidential

My Dear Sir; The mail of last night brought us the melancholy intelligence of the death of Genl. Howard our Charge at Texas. I have felt it to be my duty to delay no moment in filling the place, and for reasons which have appeared to me strong and controuling I have appointed Major Donalson, who I trust will promptly accept the place and repair without delay to his post. Independent of my great regard for Major Donalson, I was much incited to the appointment from the fact of 0344 320 his being intimate with President Houston and above all being a member of your family and in your close confidence. This I doubt not will have a controuling influence with Genl. Houston and incline him, if he entertains any feelings antagonistical to the U. States and favourable to England, to pause ere he declares against annexation. So important do I regard this mission at this great crisis that I will not permit myself to doubt Major Donelsons acceptance of the place. I have directed a quarter's salary to be advanced to him and his commission to be forwarded so that he may lose no time upon the journey.

While I have my pen in hand I deem it proper to apprize you of our proceedings here in connexion with the rumoured invasion of Texas by Mexico. We have dispatched instructions to our minister at Mexico to remonstrate in the strongest terms against the renewal of hostilities, placd as is that renewal upon the ground of our late Treaty of

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annexation. We have declared that we cannot look upon the war as other than offensive in the highest degree to this govt., seeing that Texas entered into that Treaty upon our invitation and that if any one should be singled out as the peculiar object of Mexican vengeance it should be the U. States. The atrocious and barbarous manner in which it is proposed to conduct the war, is also strongly remonstrated against as anti-Christian and savage. To Texas it is declared that Congress shall be called upon emphatically to interpose between her and her assailants. All therefore that we can do has been done to save the question, and I doubt not that it will be sav^d if Major Donelson will assist us.

I have deemed it proper to say so much as is written to you in the hope that if any suggestions in addition shall occur to you, you will do me the favour to impart them.

Accept my constant wishes for your health and happiness